What is claimed is:

1.   A domain name services (DNS) mapping for resources in a mainframe environment comprising:

a locally managed DNS server; and

5   a DNS protocol to allow a client to request a mainframe resource and the DNS server to return a selected address of a client.

2.   The system as in claim 1, further comprising a client side DNS process for collecting resource performance characteristics.

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3.   The system as in claim 2, wherein the DNS server returns the selected address of the client based upon collected machine performance characteristics of at least one client.

15   4.   The system as in claim 1, further comprising mainframe resource polling.

5.   The system as in claim 4, wherein the DNS server polls the resource to ensure it operability.

20   6.   The system as in claim 4, wherein the resource transmits its operability status to the DNS server.

7.   The system as in claim 6, wherein the resource does not transmit operability to the DNS server, which in response to the non-transmittal removes
25   the resource from the DNS server.

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8.   The system as in claim 5, wherein the resource does not respond to the polling by the DNS Server, which in response removes the resource from the DNS server.

5   9.   The system as in claim 8, wherein the DNS server reactivates the resource to the DNS server in response to an affirmation to the polling.

10.   The system as in claim 7, wherein the DNS reactivates the resource to the DNS server upon retransmittal of operability status.

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11.   A method for domain name services (DNS) mapping in a mainframe environment comprising:

       receiving DNS request for a resource in a mainframe environment from a user;

15   selecting the resource from among registered mainframe resources; and
           providing an address corresponding to the mainframe resource.

12.   The method as in claim 11, further comprising collecting performance characteristics on mainframe resources.

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13.   The method as in claim 12, wherein in the step of selecting the resource is chosen through an analysis of similarly requested mainframe resources to arrive at a suitable resource for access.

25   14.   The method as in claim 11, further comprising the step of polling the resource to ensure its operability.

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15.   The method as in claim 14 further comprising disassociating a resource from the DNS mapping in the mainframe environment.

16.   A domain name services (DNS) mapping for resources in a mainframe environment comprising:

means for receiving a DNS request for a resource in a mainframe environment from a user;

means for selecting the resource from among registered mainframe resources; and

means for providing an address corresponding to the mainframe resource.

17.   The system as in claim 16, further comprising means for collecting performance characteristics on mainframe resources.

18.   The system as in claim 16, wherein in the means for selecting the resource chooses a suitable resource for access through an analysis of similarly requested mainframe resources.

19.   The system as in claim 16, further comprising means for polling the resource to ensure its operability.

20.   The system as in claim 15, wherein the means for selecting is a local DNS server.